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Question Time: Black Friday seeps into Thanksgiving

When should stores open for the sales?

By Rob Burgess
Tribune night editor

[**Editor's note**: To participate in future queries, keep an eye on our Twitter and Facebook accounts.]

Some stores have once again announced they will start their Black Fridays as early as 5 or 6 p.m. Thanksgiving Day. So, we wanted to know: "At what time do you think they should open for the sales? Why?"

Thursday is fine

"My daughter goes every year and it has never ruined our holiday. It is part of her holiday. I do feel bad that the retail workers have to work but we have to do things that aren't fair. It's called life. … Stay home on Black Friday if you like. The folks that are out shopping are not greedy! They are shopping! Maybe they enjoy it! My daughter put 17 years in the military doing things that others would not want to do. So if she wants to shop on Black Friday I support that." — **Debbie Maxon**

“Can someone please tell me what the difference is between someone that works in retail and has to work Thanksgiving Day and those that are nurses, paramedics, respiratory therapist, firefighters, police officers, funeral directors and so on that have to work on Thanksgiving. We all have families too that we would like to see and spend time with. It's plain and simple: if you do not like the stores being open on Thanksgiving Day, then by all means DO NOT GO!” — **Stacey Griggs**

“Anytime! You can decide whether to shop or not! I loved working at midnight on Thanksgiving a few years ago! Didn't bother me, or my co-workers at all!” — **Melissa Copp**

Not until Friday

“My family is planning a family bridal shower for my cousin on Thanksgiving since she lives five hours away. We were informed (after all the planning) she has to work Thanksgiving due to working at Kohl's. Thanks a lot Kohl's for blowing this day for her. And I sure hope that door buster sale was really worth her missing out on her own shower. And perhaps if more people would have their shopping done by Thanksgiving then the sales would be spread throughout the year instead of one lousy weekend. I start saving in January for my Christmas shopping.. By mid-October I have enough to buy all my gifts in one weekend. My shopping is done by Halloween. No crowded stores for me.” — **Angela McQuinston**

“Thanksgiving is for family. I worked retail for five years. Black Friday was always exhausting, especially with multiple shifts for floor coverage and customer service. Companies do not need to make their employees work on Thanksgiving due to the fact that there is a Black Friday for a reason and it is then a weekend. Greedy people can wait Friday. There’s not going to be any difference in lines and prices other than now the employees have to work on a holiday that’s meant for time off for you and your family. Employees deserve their time off because they have to service to the loonies who decide to fight with each other. Believe me, I’ve seen physical fights over a pair of shoes. I, for one, will not be shopping on Black Friday or ‘Black Thursday.’” — **Kayla Lanning**

“I think they should stay closed for Thanksgiving. My fiance has to work that evening. So now we have to figure out how we are going to spend Thanksgiving with the family and he has to sleep before he goes into work that night. Shop online if you want to go shopping on Thanksgiving, [and] let people be with their families!” — **Susan Stewart**

Our answers

“The minute you start caring about what stores are doing for Black Friday, the stores have won.” — **Steve Mullen**

“I’m from the old school… Friday at 8 a.m. Thursday, Thanksgiving Day should be spent with family and friends into the wee hours of the evening. I

would rather have the extra hugs and kisses and gossip on Thanksgiving day than to fight my way through narrow isles, rude shoppers and long checkout lines just to save a few bucks." — **Nancy Barth**

"I've already written columns for the last two years about Black Friday, so I won't say too much more about it here. I will say this is one of the fatal flaws of unfettered capitalism: it has no morals. It's about whatever the market will bear. Supply and demand. I'm surprised they didn't start this years ago. These corporations don't care one lick about your family or your traditions. The same goes for customers and retail workers both. They need that dollar, dollar bill, y'all." — **Rob Burgess**

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